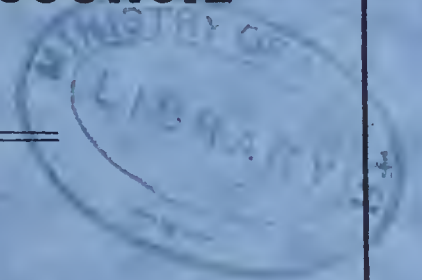


12TH  
OCT 51

**COCKERMOUTH  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

---



*Annual Report*

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,  
Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

---

**FOR THE YEAR 1950**

---

Together with the Summary of Work  
of the Sanitary Inspector



**COCKERMOUTH**  
**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

---

*Annual Report*

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,  
Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

---

**FOR THE YEAR 1950**

---

Together with the Summary of Work  
of the Sanitary Inspector

## CONTENTS

Introduction	..	..	3
Bakehouses	..	..	22
Births	..	..	6
Cancer	..	..	11
Deaths	..	..	7
Drainage and Sewerage	..		15
Factories Act, 1937	..	..	16
General Provision of Health Services			12
Housing	...	..	17
Housing Appendix	..	..	19
Infantile Mortality	..	..	7
Infectious Diseases:			
Prevalence and Control over	..		23
Infectious Diseases: Non-Notifiable, Acute			27
Inquests	..	..	10
Milk Supply	..	.	21
Rainfall	..	..	5
Sanitary Arrangements	..	..	15
Sanitary Inspection	..	..	16
Scavenging	..	...	15
Senility	..	..	10
Shops Act, 1934	..	..	16
Slaughterhouses	..	..	22
Summary of work of Sanitary Inspectors			29
Tuberculosis	..	..	11 & 26
Violence	..	..	10
Water Supply	..	..	12

## Cockermouth Rural District Council.

---

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Cockermouth Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1950, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940 and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received June, 1951.

My thanks are again due to those Observers of Rainfall in the district, shown on page 5, for their courtesy in supplying the records.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**CHARLES A. MASON,**

Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 161,312 (inclusive of area covered by water).

Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1950)  
(see page 6) 19,400.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950) according to  
Rate Book 5,650

Rateable Value £97.882.

Product of a Penny Rate, £373 18s 8d.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births { Legitimate	315	162	153	Birth Rate (R.G.) (unadjusted) 16.7
{ Illegitimate	9	5	4	
Still Births	9	3	6 (incl. 1 illeg.)	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 27.02.				

	Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	245	138	107	Crude Death Rate. (R.G.) 12.6 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

Maternal Mortality:—

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	0	Nil
Total	0	Nil

Infantile Mortality:—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	14
All Infants per 1,000 live births (approximately)	43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	41
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate „	111
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (all ages)	2
Deaths from Cancer	20

Table showing rainfall in inches. in 1950, compiled from observers in various parts of the district.

Observation Station	Dean School	At Crosthwaite Keswick, about 440 yards from the Cockermouth Rural District boundary	Dale Head Hall, Thirlmere	Blackwood, Braithwaite,	South Lodge, Cockermouth, within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of Rural District boundary
Observer	A. Casson, Esq.	T. Wilson, Esq.	Alan Atkinson Esq., Engineer to Manchester Corporation Water Works	G. Barnes Esq.	J. Armstrong Esq.
Diameter of Rain Gauge Funnel	5 inches	5 in.	5 in.	8 in.	5 in.
Height of gauge above ground	11 in.	1 ft.	1 ft.	1 ft.	1 ft.
Height of gauge above sea level	365 ft.	254 ft.	620 ft.	400 ft.	242 ft.
1950.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January	2.52	4.33	8.62	5.89	2.77
February	5.11	6.77	12.63	8.01	4.93
March	3.13	3.77	6.22	4.76	3.58
April	2.98	4.76	6.47	6.15	3.33
May	1.15	2.24	2.76	2.99	1.72
June	3.65	2.63	3.97	3.42	3.11
July	2.82	3.42	5.57	4.43	3.23
August	6.98	8.06	12.33	9.07	6.69
September	8.48	14.51	18.86	14.18	10.53
October	2.95	5.66	7.85	6.67	4.70
November	3.68	6.77	9.32	7.53	4.41
December	3.33	2.60	4.42	3.32	2.13
Totals	46.78	65.52	99.02	76.42	51.13
Average	47.10	60.26	72.53	71.51	44.18
prev. 5 yrs } 1945-49 (incl)		(Av. 48 yrs 57.4)	(Av. 73 yrs 82.60)		



# Cockermouth Rural District Council.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the year 1950.

The area of the district in statute acres is 161,312 (approximately 4,700 of which are covered by inland water).

### POPULATION.

The population figure of 19,400 is given for the year 1950 by the Registrar General and called by him the "Home population" (i.e. including members of the armed forces stationed in the area); on this figure the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based.

N.B.—The population figure for 1949 was 19,540 and non-civilians were excluded.

### Vital Statistics.

#### BIRTHS.

Live Births.—The total number of live births registered in and belonging to the district in 1950 was 324 (167 males and 157 females). Of these 9 (5 males and 4 females) were illegitimate. The net live birth rate is accordingly 16.7 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 17.2 for the previous year.

As regards Births and Deaths the Registrar General has supplied Area Comparability Factors, which allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and are used for comparing birth rates and death rates with those in other areas. The factor for births is 1.08, adjusting the birth rate, therefore, to 18.04.

Birth Rate comparisons may be given as follows:—

		Adjusted.
1950—Cumberland	17.6	
Rural Districts of Cumberland	17.4	
Urban Districts of Cumberland	18.0	
England and Wales	15.8	
Cockermouth Rural District	16.7	18.03



The percentage of illegitimate live births was approximately 2.7 as compared with 4.4 in 1949.

Still Births.—9 still births (1 being illegitimate) were also registered, giving a still birth rate of 0.46 per 1,000 of the population the same as that for 1949. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.37).

The still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births was 27.02 as compared with 26.01 for 1949.

### DEATHS.

The number of deaths (civilian and non-civilian), registered as belonging to the district was 245 (138 males and 107 females) i.e., after correcting for non-residents dying within the district and for those persons whose usual residence was within the district dying outside the district. This gives a crude death rate of 12.6 per 1,000 of the population compared with 12.2 for the previous year.

The comparability factor for adjusting the crude death rate (for the reasons explained above) is 0.96. The adjusted death rate for Cockermouth Rural District was, therefore, 12.10.

Comparisons of crude death rates are shown below:—

	Crude	Adjusted
Death Rates, 1950—Cumberland	12.6	
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.0	
Urban Districts of Cumberland	13.4	
England and Wales	11.6	
Cockermouth Rural District	12.6	12.10

(For causes of death during the year see table on page 8)

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 14 deaths of infants under one year of age—giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of, approximately, 43 per 1,000 births as compared with 9 for the preceding year.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1950—

Cumberland	..	..	35
Rural Districts of Cumberland	..	..	37
Urban Districts of Cumberland	..	..	33
England and Wales	..	..	29.8
Cockermouth Rural District	..	..	43

# CAUSES OF DEATH 1950

Causes of Death		Males		Females
All Causes		..	138	107
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	5	3
2	"    Other	...	1	0
3	Syphilitic disease	..	0	0
4	Diphtheria	..	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	..	0	0
6	Meningo-Coccal infections	..	0	0
7	Acute Polio-myelitis	..	0	0
8	Measles	..	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	3	1
11	"    "    lung, bronchus	...	0	0
12	"    "    breast	..	0	0
13	"    "    Uterus	..	0	0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	9	7
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	..	0	0
16	Diabetes	...	1	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	12	9
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	16	14
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	3	7
20	Other heart disease	...	37	23
21	Other circulatory disease	..	3	2
22	Influenza	...	1	4
23	Pneumonia	...	3	2
24	Bronchitis	...	6	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	0	2
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	5	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	...	1	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	20	19
33	Motor vehicle accidents	..	2	0
34	All other accidents	...	6	2
35	Suicide	...	1	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	0	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total		..	8	6
Legitimate		..	8	5
Illegitimate		..	0	1

		M	F
LIVE BIRTHS	{ Total	...	167
	Legitimate	...	162
	Illegitimate	...	5
STILL BIRTHS	{ Total	..	3
	Legitimate	..	3
	Illegitimate	..	0

POPULATION (for Births and Deaths), 1950—R.G.—(see p. 6) 19,400

# INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1950

Net Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages  
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under One Year
Enteritis, Cerebral Haem. and Convulsions							1			1
Prematurity, Atelectasis, Asphyxia	7				7					7
Spina Bifida	1				1			1		2
Other congenital malformation	1				1	1	1			3
Prolapse of Cord and Asphyxia due to Liq. Amn. Aspiration	1				1					1
All Causes (certified)	10				10		2	1		14 <small>RO</small>

6 of the deaths in the first column occurred within twenty-four hours after birth, and 4 within forty-eight hours.

One death occurred among illegitimate infants so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate was approximately 111 per 1,000 illegitimate births, as compared with 13 deaths among legitimate infants giving a Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 41 per 1,000 legitimate births. These rates were respectively 67 and 6 for the previous year.

(For Infant Mortality Table see page 9).

### SENILE DEATH RATE.

164 persons (90 males and 74 females) had attained the age of 65 or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 66.9 per cent of the total deaths as compared with a percentage of 66.1 for 1949.

35	(21 m 14f)	persons died between the ages of	65 and 70 years
27	(14 m 13f)	.. .. .	70 and 75
30	(18 m 12f)	.. .. .	75 and 80
41	(23 m 18f)	.. .. .	80 and 85
17	( 9 m 8f)	.. .. .	85 and 90
14	( 5 m 9f)	.. .. .	90 and 95

### INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year, there were 14 inquests (6 of which were held outside the district). Five Coroner's Certificates were received of cases where post mortem examinations had been made but no inquest held.

20 post mortem examinations were known to have been carried out (these include inquest cases).

Eight deaths were uncertified (1949—10).

Violence.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0.56 per 1,000 of the population in the Cockermouth Rural District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accidents, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1,000 of the population in comparison with 1949:—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Accidents		Other Violence excl'g Road Traffic Acc.		Total Violence	
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
Deaths	1	2	3	2	7	5	11	9
% of all causes	.40	.83	1.22	.83	2.85	2.09	4.48	3.76
D R. pr 1000 population	.052	.102	.154	.102	.360	.255	.567	.460

The deaths from Violence in 1950 include: 3 road accidents; 1 accidental burns; 3 drowning (misadventure); 1 suicide by shooting; 1 kick from horse; 1 carbon monoxide poisoning (misadventure); and 1 suffocation due to inhalation of food.

## CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 20 cases, as follows:—

System	Primary Organ	Males.	Females.
Alimentary	Oesophagus	..	1
	Stomach	3	1
	Bowel	1	1
	Rectum	3	1
Glandular	Breast	..	1
	Pancreas	1	
	Ovary	..	1
Excretory	Kidney	2	
Reproductive	Penis	1	
Other	Bile duct	..	1
	Vulva	..	1
	Lachrymal tumour with multiple secondaries	1	
	.....		

1	of the deaths (f)	occurred among persons between	20 and 30 yrs of age
1	.. (m)	..	40 and 50 ..
3	.. (2m 1f)	..	50 and 60 ..
9	.. (7m 2f)	..	60 and 70 ..
4	.. (2m 2f)	..	70 and 80 ..
2	.. (f)	..	80 and 90 ..

The 20 deaths correspond to a death rate of 1.03 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 29 deaths and a death rate of 1.48 in 1949. Approximately out of every 12 deaths of persons in this district one was due to cancer (1949-1 in 8).

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also page 26.

There were 9 deaths due to Tuberculosis:—

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory System	5	3	8
Other Forms	1	0	1
All cases	6	3	9

Seven of the deaths were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of .46 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .76 for 1949.

The death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was .41 per 1,000 of the population, there being four respiratory deaths fewer than in the previous year which had a rate of .61.



# General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.

2. Two full-time Sanitary Inspectors:—

(i.) Senior S.I.—Mr. George Nelson, who holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and also a special Certificate of the London City Guilds for Sanitation and Plumbing.

(ii) Additional S.I.—Mr. Reginald Mather, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

3. Mr Denys Hinde clerk and assistant. The department also had the use of a temporary clerk.

The work of the Council's Engineering Staff (Sanitary and Water) under Mr A. E. Simpson, A.M.I.C.E., is to some extent connected with this department.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council is the Authority responsible for this important public service (taking over in 1948). Under their comprehensive Ambulance Scheme for Cumberland adequate provision has been made for this district.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Generally speaking, with few exceptions, this district is well covered with public and private water mains.

The population supplied from public mains direct to houses is estimated as 16,694 and houses supplied approximately 4,903.

There are no properties in this district which are supplied by stand-pipes provided by the local authority (Section 128, P.H.A., 1936).

The estimated number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains direct to houses for each Parish is shown in the following table.

Parish	Houses	Population	Parish	Houses	Population
Above Derwent	319	890	Crosscanonby	257	875
Allerby and Oughterside	173	635	Dearham	567	2014
Bassenthwaite	82	250	Dean	217	737
Bewaldeth	5	19	Embleton	66	258
Blinderake	75	269	Gilcrux	101	374
Bothel	90	353	Greysouthen	131	460
Bridekirk	118	430	Lorton	62	178
Broughton	373	1300	Loweswater	7	25
Broughton Moor	234	880	Papcastle	76	250
Blindbothel	8	30	Plumb'and	156	565
Borrowdale	52	218	Seaton	759	2315
Brigham	235	860	St. Johns	1	4
Buttermere	—	—	Setmurthy	28	113
Camerton	60	225	Underskiddaw	39	118
Clifton, Great	403	1340	Winscales	59	186
Clifton, Little	139	475	Wythop	11	48
			TOTALS	4,903	16 694

Nine samples of water were taken for analysis and the results given as follows:—

1. (16-1-50) Hause Ghyll Supply).

Taken from the Post Office, Blinderake. Although a few coliform bacilli are present, faecal types are not demonstrated and the water may be regarded as safe for drinking purposes.

2. (16-1-50) Bassenthwaite Village Supply.

Taken from Post Office, Bassenthwaite. Chemical and bacteriological examinations show this water to be safe for drinking purposes.

3. (16-1-50) Embleton Village Supply.

Taken from Orchard House, Embleton. The result of examination shows this water to be satisfactory for drinking purposes.

4. (24-1-50) High Close, Bassenthwaite.

A private supply from a shallow well with pump. The report of examination states: Bacteriologically a very unsatisfactory water. The chemical analysis also reveals some contamination of animal origin.

5. (30-6-50) Stoneycroft Scheme,



Sample taken at Portinscale Post Office. Some atypical coliform bacilli were shown to be present, but no evidence of faecal pollution and it was considered probable that these were due to surface washings due to heavy rainfall. The water was considered reasonably safe for drinking purposes in its present condition.

6. (30-6-50) Hause Ghyll Scheme.

Sample taken at Blinderake. The report states. The results show some atypical coliform bacilli but in the absence of faecal type organisms the water may be considered safe for drinking purposes.

7. (30-6-50) Bassenthwaite Village Supply.

The results of examination show evidence of past pollution and in its present condition the water, although probably safe, cannot be considered entirely satisfactory.

8. (14-7-50). Hause Ghyll Supply.

Sample taken at Highgate Farm, Bewaldeth. The report states. Judging by the bacteriological results, the water cannot be considered suitable for drinking purposes in its present condition.

9. (14-7-50). Hause Ghyll Supply.

Sample taken at Post Office, Blinderake. Satisfactory.

There were no renewals of water mains during the year.

Extensions of water mains during the year:

2237 lin. yds. of 2 inch. "Everite" from Embleton Vicarage to Hundith Hill.

176 lin. yds. of 4 inch. 73 yds. of 2 inch and 253 of 1½ inch pipe laid on Broughton Housing Site.

136 yds. of 3 inch. and 33 yds. of 2 inch pipe laid on Great Clifton Housing Site.

193 yds. of 1 inch pipe to Quarry Bank, Brigham.

120 yds. of 2 inch. pipe near Home Farm, Great Clifton.

The Holme Beck Scheme and the Borrowdale Water Scheme were both completed during the year, and the electric pump at Broughton Pumping Station was installed.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

New Schemes completed during the year:

Grange in Borrowdale (Public sewer and outfall works).  
Ellen Villa (Public sewer and outfall works.)

The public sewer and outfall works for Mockerkinn were in progress during the year.

Sewer extensions carried out: Nil.

Thornthwaite and Branthwaite.

In my Annual report of 1949 special mention was made of the need of public sewers and outfall works for these two villages also the special difficulties in each case.

Preparations of plans are now in hand.

## SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

Where public sewers have been provided, the drainage of 45 houses was connected, and 45 closets were converted to the water carriage system.

## REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

As will be seen by the table below, the total cost of the service for the year was £3,547 18s 10d and covered approximately 5,224 houses. This gives a figure of approximately 13s 7d per house per annum or 3½d per week.

The following Parishes or Parts are covered by the Council's vehicle with direct labour:--Dean (including Ullock, Branthwaite, Pardshaw, Deanscales and Eaglesfield), Bridekirk (including Dovenby and Tallantire), Papcastle, Seaton, Broughton Moor, Buttermere, Loweswater (including Mockerkinn), Blindbothel (including Rogerscale and Mosser), Bassenthwaite (including Castle Inn and Chapel Area), Sunderland and Isel, Greysouthen and Lorton.

The remaining parts of the district where collection is made are covered by contractors:

Parish (or part)	Approx. No. of houses		Total Cost		
			£	s.	d.
Allerby & Oughterside	175	...	129	15	1
Above Derwent	322	...	331	17	8
Blindbothel	22	...	44	9	11
Borrowdale	125	...	153	17	8
Bassenthwaite	114	...	44	9	11
Bridekirk	111	...	103	15	9
Brigham (and Broughton Cross)	247	...	77	3	4
Broughton	367	...	124	15	2
Broughton Moor	233	...	107	16	11
Blindcrake	58	...	77	11	2
Bothel and Threapland	88	...	62	16	8
Buttermere	48	...	90	17	9
Crosscanonby	264	...	180	2	2

Camerton	60	...	47	12	8
Dearham	564	...	459	15	6
Dean	219	...	90	15	9
Embleton	47	...	49	15	0
Glucru	82	...	77	14	0
Greysouthern	134	...	69	0	0
Clifton, Great	394	...	148	7	5
Little Clifton and Bridgefoot	138	...	57	3	4
Lorton	92	...	90	6	9
Loweswater	48	...	46	5	10
Papcastle	87	...	117	7	7
Plumbland	140	...	98	19	11
St. Johns-in-the-Vale	132	...	144	14	4
Seaton	741	...	290	2	1
Selmurthy	21	...	12	19	10
Underskiddaw	102	...	131	19	10
Winscales (Furnace Row)	33	...	72	10	0
Wythop	16	...	12	19	10
	<u>5,224</u>		<u>£3,547</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>10</u>

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The inclusive summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors, in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, will be found at the end of this report (commencing on page 29.

Duties additional to the normal routine continued to be undertaken as a result of Post-War conditions.

I again record my appreciation of the friendly co-operation of the Council's staff as a whole, and especially that of the two very assiduous Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. G. Nelson and Mr. R. Mather. I am, also, again indebted to Mr. Nelson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his truly invaluable assistance in the compilation of my annual report.

### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There were 109 shops on the register and 126 inspections were made.

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1950:—

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Defects found	Defects remedied
(i) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	29	71	2	1	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	47	54	2	1	1
(iii) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	2	1	1	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

(Section 1 refers to cleanliness, 2 to overcrowding, 3 to temperature, 4 to ventilation, 6 to drainage of floors, 7 to sanitary conveniences)

As regards Sections 110 and 111 relating to Outwork there are two outworkers, the nature of their work being in connection with wearing apparel.

### HOLIDAY CAMPING.

20 Camping Licences were issued (10 for Camping sites, and 10 for Individual Caravans).

Experience shows that the provisions in the Public Health Act, 1936, have remained inadequate for the satisfactory administration of this branch of public health duties.

## Housing.

### PLANS PASSED :—

- (a) New Dwellinghouses 91 (including 64 N.E.H.A.).
- (b) Enlargement or renovation of dwelling houses 48.
- (c) Other buildings 64.

5 private houses and 110 N.E.H.A. were completed during the year.

Difficulties in connection with housing repairs in general have increased, principally shortage of building labour and materials, and concentration on the erection of new houses. Added to these is the financial difficulty of owners who are faced with post-war high costs of repairs, but rents restricted to a pre-war basis.

Nevertheless every endeavour has been made to deal with urgent cases as will be seen by the Sanitary Inspector's summary at the end of this report where it is recorded that repairs were carried out to 224 houses.

45 licences were issued for repairs and necessary improvements where the cost exceeded £100 per house.

### POST WAR HOUSING.

Progress continues to be made with post-war housing schemes and at the end of the year under review 490 houses (all traditional) had been completed and occupied, while at the time of writing the 500 mark has been passed.

In addition 73 private houses had been built in the district making a total of 563 new houses completed by the end of 1950.

Owing to the continued shortage of building labour and materials the Ministry continued the system of fixing a maximum allocation for each local authority in connection with the building of new houses. The allocation in 1950 for this district was 25 out of which the Council was permitted to issue not more than 10 licences for private houses.

After consideration of the various interests and needs the Council adopted the following programme for the year :—



Private licences	10	Applications to be considered on merit.
Broughton	24	Including 1 double house for exceptionally large family.
Greysouthen	12	Including 6 houses for Agricultural workers.
Borrowdale	12	Proportion for slate quarry workers
Braithwaite	14	In joint scheme with Forestry Commissioners.
Lorton	4	2 for agricultural workers, 1 for district nurse and 1 for general needs.
Bridekirk	4	for Agricultural workers.
Winscales	2	" "
Dearham	6	" "
Seaton	8	2 for Technical School masters at the request of the Education Authority and 6 for general needs.

Owing to siting difficulties and in order to safeguard the allocation some adjustment had to be made in the programme at a later date which especially adversely affected Braithwaite, Dearham and Lorton.

The North Eastern Housing Association continue to build the houses on behalf of the Council and the location of those completed and occupied up to the end of 1950 are as follows. Crosby 30, Broughton Moor 32, Dearham 78, Little Clifton 32, Brigham 46, Bothel 12, Bassenthwaite 14, Deanscales 6, Seaton 116, Camerton 6, Plumbland 20, Broughton 36, Blinderake 4, Oughterside 4; Great Clifton 44, Crosscanonby 2, Allerby 2, Applethwaite 4, Gilcrux 2; (490).

### INSPECTION OF POST-WAR HOUSING SCHEMES BY THE COUNCIL.

On the 8th. May, 1950, members of the Council made an inspection of post-war houses, the villages visited being Broughton, Brigham, Clifton, and Seaton, covering over 200 houses on five separate estates. At Seaton the Council was joined by members of the local Parish Council when the Chairman of the Rural District Council (The Rev. William Marsden B.A), formally opened 'Hunters Bridge' recently built at the entrance to the Housing Estate at High Seaton.

This was the second organised post war inspection by the Council and it proved of considerable value as members were able to see at first hand the results which had been achieved and they came into direct contact with occupants who had been rehoused under modern hygienic conditions, many of whom had never had a home of their own before.

Advantage was also taken of viewing some remaining unsatisfactory houses yet to be dealt with.

## PROSPECTIVE.

The efforts of the Council and the North Eastern Housing Association, resulting in the completion of 500 houses since the end of the war has brought relief and happiness to a large number of people in this district who were so sorely in need of housing accommodation and modern amenities.

Nevertheless it must be remembered that there is still a long waiting list and much leeway to make up in connection with condemned and condemnable houses which are occupied. It is evident that many sub-standard houses will have to do service for some time to come owing to the continued shortage of building labour and materials and the ever-increasing costs which reflect on the rent. Siting arrangements are now much more difficult to conclude owing to so many authorities being involved and all having their separate ideas and interests.

Whatever the merits of present day machinery in connection with the clearance, siting and planning arrangements, they are certainly retarding housing work in this district and making it more costly.

The fact remains that more houses are urgently needed, and I am confident the Council and its officials will continue to do their best to meet this urgent domestic need.

Arrangements are in hand in connection with the allocation and programme for 1951, but the difficulties, shortage of skilled building labour and materials tend to increase while costs continue to rise.

## HOUSING ACT 1949.

As explained in the previous Annual Report this Act received Royal Assent on the 30th July, 1949, and among the provisions of the Act was that of financial assistance towards the cost of improvements to existing houses where the cost is neither less than £100 nor more than £600, and where the house (when improved) will comply with the standard and conditions required by the Ministry.

During 1950 approval was given in two cases where plans had been submitted and applications made for grants, but the work of improvement in each case was not completed until 1951.

## Housing Appendix.

### STATISTICS.

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts

(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	543
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932 (Brought up to date)	0
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	25
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	314
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	224
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	5
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	13
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0



## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention on the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health.

Under the above Act provision is made for removal to suitable premises for care and attention any person who :—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

During the year one case was removed to Meadow View, Whitehaven, after a Court Order had been obtained.

The case was that of an aged man who was a semi-invalid living in an old railway hut.

## Food.

### MILK SUPPLY.

Under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, new regulations came into force on the 1st October, 1949, when the duties and powers relating to the production of milk on the farms were transferred from County and Local Sanitary Authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture. This transfer also meant the end of the joint sampling scheme (for the detection of T.B. and the estimation of cleanliness) between the Cumberland County Council and the Local Authorities in the County which had served a very useful purpose covering many years.

It was later found, however, that no arrangements had been made for sampling milk (for the detection of T.B.) from ungraded herds where milk was retailed in the County. The County Council were seriously concerned in this matter and being responsible under the Food and Drugs Act for the sampling for T.B., they called a conference of all local authorities within the County to consider what could be done as a measure of protection of the public against possible milk-borne infection by Tubercle Bacilli.

This resulted in a scheme of co-operation in the sampling of ungraded milk retailed to the public within the County, the appropriate Officers of the Local Authorities taking the samples and submitting them to the Cumberland Laboratory and the Council Council paying the costs. This scheme was put into operations as from 1st May, 1950, and up to the end of the year 31 samples were taken by your Public Health Department all of which proved negative for T.B.

Although under the new regulations the production side of this work (dairy farms) was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture the portions dealing with retail distribution and dairies (not farms) are still the responsibility of the local sanitary authorities.

Local Authorities must keep a register of retailers and their dairy premises. There are 92 registered retailers in this district of which 87 are producer retailers and 5 retailers only.

I am indebted to Mr John Reid, the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture for the following return of figures relating to the eradication of tuberculous bovines:—

Particulars of Animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938, from premises registered in the Cockermouth Rural District, during the year, 1950.

Total number of Animals Slaughtered	...	6
Cows in Milk	..	5
Other Cows or Heifers	..	1
Other Bovine Animals	..	0

Types of Disease found on post-mortem.

Tuberculosis of Udder	..	0
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	..	0
Tuberculosis with Chronic Cough and showing definite Clinical signs	..	5
Discharging or excreting tuberculous material	..	1

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Since January, 1940, all slaughtering in private slaughter houses was suspended by the Ministry of Food as a war-time measure and all slaughtering has been (and is being) carried on in regional slaughter houses.

Private slaughter-houses in the district have therefore only been used as meat stores and for making-up purposes, the butchers receiving their supplies of meat from Maryport Abattoir.

By arrangement with the Maryport Urban District Council assistance continues to be rendered, as and when required, in the work of meat inspection at the Maryport Abattoir by the appropriate officials of this (C.R.D.) Council.

In addition, 96 inspections have been made of meat stores in the district.

A list of articles of food condemned will be seen in the Sanitary's Inspector's Report on Page 30.

## BAKEHOUSES:—

There are 7 registered bakehouses in the district. 51 inspections were made during the year but no serious defects found.

## ICE CREAM:—

Registered Premises for manufacture or sale	....	15
Inspections made	.....	38

## Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases. — The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1950 in the Coker-mouth Rural District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 77. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (*vide post*) the number was 46. (The figure for 1949 was 40).

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1950.

Disease	Total cases notified in C.R.D.	Cases notified 1950 admitted to hospital	Deaths 1949 notified cases
Small-pox	.. 0	0	0
Diphtheria	.. 0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	.. 32	17	1
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid)	.. nil		
Puerperal Pyrexia	.. 0	0	0
Pneumonia (all forms)	.. 7	3	1
Erysipelas	.. 1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.. 0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	.. 2	2	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis	.. 4	4	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	.. 0	0	0
Measles	.. 11	0	0
Whooping Cough	.. 20	0	0
Dysentery (Sonne)	.. 0	0	0
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary	Males 5	1 (San.)	1
	Females 7	2 „	1
Non-Pulmonary	Males 0	0	0
	Females 1	1 (Hosp.)	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1950:—

[illegible]





From notifications received it is deduced that 1 in every 329 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chickenpox, Measles and Whooping Cough excluded) and Tuberculosis Regulations. (In 1949 the figures were 1 in 493).

(Vide Post re Measles and Whooping Cough)

There were no notifications of Diphtheria during 1950.

The case rate of Diphtheria per 1,000 of the population was therefore nil—the same as for 1949. The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 0.02.

The Diphtheria death rate per 1,000 of the population was nil, the same as for 1949, 8, 7, 6 and 5. The rate (1950) for England and Wales was 0.00.

The immunisation campaign against Diphtheria was continued as before (still entailing, a great deal of unseen work) most of the actual inoculations again being given by me at the local public elementary schools and at Cockermonth School Clinic; co-operation of local Medical Practitioners, Head Teachers, the various District Nurses, and in particular, the County Health Visitor, Miss Horn, is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

According to figures kindly supplied by the Divisional Medical Officer, during the year under review 188 public elementary school children from 5 to 14 years of age, and 235 infants under 5 years old were given primary injections (two at intervals of a few weeks).

489 children received a single re-inforcing dose (these are children who received the two primary doses 4 to 5 years previously).

Regarding Scarlet Fever there were 32 cases, and mainly mild in type (1949-2). Vide distribution table, page 28, seventeen were removed to Hospital. One case occurring of an inmate in Dovenby Mental Colony, died after only a day or two of illness. The death rate per 1,000 of the population from Scarlet fever was, therefore, .05.

The case rate of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population was accordingly 1.64 as compared with 0.10 for 1949. (The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 1.50, and death rate .00).

There being no notification of Typhoid or Para-Typhoid Fevers their case rates and death rates were respectively nil per 1,000 of the population. (For England and Wales in 1950 the Typhoid and Para-Typhoid case rates were respectively .00 and .01, whilst the combined death rate of these two fevers was 0.00).

Seven cases of Pneumonia were notified, and 6 of these recovered. The registered deaths from this disease (all forms) numbered 5.

Four cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified. One was of a lady who was ailing before coming into this district on holiday. The other three were children; one being a possible contact. Three of the cases showed some initial paralysis and one is still suffering from some leg paresis. The last case notified was on August 4th.

There were two cases (one doubtful) of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis notified; both received treatment in hospital and recovered.

Encephalitis Lethargica, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Dysentery (Sonne).—No notifications.

No notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was received (this term includes Puerperal Fever).

The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate was nil per 1,000 total births (i.e. live and still births) as compared with one notification giving a rate of 2.8 in 1949. The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 5.81.

No maternal death, again, was recorded, so that the Maternal Mortality (all causes) rate was therefore nil per 1,000 total (live and still) births, the same as for 1949 and 8.

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 12 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (5 males and 7 females) and 1 of Other Forms of Tuberculosis (female) were notified during the year under review. This number excludes transfers inward from elsewhere (including H.M. Forces) viz: 3 males and 1 female, pulmonary. Of those notified during the year three pulmonary cases (1 male, 2 females) were admitted to Sanatorium, whilst 2 died, (1 male and 1 female, pulmonary). Among previously notified and inward transfer cases (and including re-admittances) 4 cases (2 males and 2 females, pulmonary) were admitted to Sanatorium.

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 11.

The following table gives the number of new cases and Mortality (all cases) :—

1950 Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	5	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—45	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65—and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	7	0	1	5	3	1	0

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1950 was as follows :

		Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	..	39	44	83
Non-pulmonary	..	10	9	19
All Cases	..	49	53	102

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Disease.—Influenza was prevalent this year and five deaths were attributed to this disease—2 in Blindcrake, 1 in Broughton, 1 in Loweswater and 1 in Setmurthy—equivalent, therefore, to an influenza death rate of .25 per 1,000 of the population as compared with .15 (three deaths) in 1949. The rate for England and Wales (1949) was 0.10.

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which both became notifiable as from 1st. November, 1939)—see monthly incidence table page 23. According to Measles notifications received six parishes were affected—Plumbland 1, Little Clifton 1, Brigham 1, Seaton 1, Dearham 5, Gilerux 2—Notifications totalling 11. Notified Whooping Cough cases occurred in five parishes, there being twenty notifications—Plumbland 10, Borrowdale 1, Camerton 2, Gilerux 5 and Isel (Blindcrake) 2.

The case rates of Measles and Whooping Cough (as per notifications received) were respectively .56 and 1.03 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 8.39 and 3.60 for all England and Wales.

No death occurred from either Measles or Whooping Cough : the death rate per 1,000 of the population for each disease, respectively, being therefore, nil, as compared with 0.01 and 0.01 in England and Wales



Hospital accommodation as provided by the West Cumberland Joint Hospital Board for infectious diseases remains more or less unaltered.

During 1950 no public elementary school in the Cockermouth Rural District was closed on account of Infectious Disease.

**Food Poisoning.**—In the fourth quarter of the year information was received of some cases of sickness and diarrhoea resulting apparently from food poisoning. Investigation was made and it was found that eleven persons had been affected and, it was thought, after eating a certain uncooked sweet course at dinner at a hotel. Illness on the whole was mild, duration varying from a few days to a fortnight, and was due to bacterial (*Salmonella Typhi-murium*) infection of food considered contaminated by mice (as evidence was found of infestation). Appropriate steps were taken and no further cases occurred.

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Typhoid Fever in the various parishes:—

1950		Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever
Parish				
Above Derwent	—	..	—	..
Allerby and Oughterside	—	..	—	..
Bassenthwaite	—	..	—	..
Bewaldeth, &c.	—	..	—	..
Blindcrake, incl. Isel Old Park and Sunderland	—	..	—	..
Bothel and Threapland	—	..	3	..
Bridekirk, (incl. Dovenby Tallantire)	—	..	5	..
Gt. and Lt. Broughton	—	..	—	..
Broughton Moor	—	..	1	..
Blindbothel incl. Mosser & Whinfell	—	..	—	..
Borrowdale	—	..	—	..
Brigham	—	..	—	..
Buttermere, incl. Brackenthwaite	—	..	—	..
Camerton, incl. Ribton	—	..	2	..
Great Clifton	—	..	3	..
Little Clifton	—	..	—	..
Crosscanonby	—	..	2	..
Dearham	—	..	4	..
Dean, incl. Eaglesfield &c.	—	..	2	..
Embleton	—	..	—	..
Gilcrux	—	..	—	..
Greysouthen	—	..	—	..
Lorton	—	..	—	..
Loweswater and Mockerkin	—	..	—	..
Papcastle	—	..	1	..
Plumbland, &c.	—	..	2	..
Seaton	—	..	7	..
St. John's-in-the-Vale	—	..	—	..
Setmurthy	—	..	—	..
Underskiddaw, incl. Skiddaw	—	..	—	..
Winscales	—	..	—	..
Wythop	—	..	—	..
..	Totals	0	32	0

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935.

## Sanitary Inspectors' Summary for the year ending December 31st, 1950.

---

### NUISANCES:—

Complaints received	..	118
Nuisances observed	..	236
Nuisances abated	..	158
Nuisances unabated or work in hand	..	78
Sanitary conveniences repaired	..	25
Drains tested	..	77
New laid drains	..	39
New gully traps fixed	..	41
New chambers constructed	..	25
Septic tanks and filters constructed (private)		13
New water closets fixed	..	24

### CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING:—

Licences issued respecting essential repairs to dwelling houses (where cost was over £100)	45
--	----

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES:—

Visits to infectious cases	..	51
Patients removed to isolation hospital	..	21
Houses disinfected	..	35

### WATER SUPPLIES:—

Houses visited with special reference to water supplies	51
Houses provided with supplies from public mains (Including new houses)	156
Old connections and service pipes renewed	35
Samples of water taken for analysis (see page 13)	9

### HOUSING:—

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	130
Number of inspections made	.. 142
Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	25
Houses with structural or other defects (exclusive of item 3).	105
Houses, defects remedied	.. 45
Demolition orders served	.. 18
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	.. —
Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	268
Number of visits made under the Public Health Acts	401
Number of houses with defects	.. 268
Number of houses with defects repaired	179

**CAMPING:—**

Licences issued under P.H.A. 1936 (Section 269)		
(Including renewals) Camping sites	10	
Individual Movable dwellings	10	20
Visits of inspection	..	49

**SEWERING:—**

Inspections (including interviews with owners of properties) regarding the provision of new sanitary arrangements and drainage connections	..	117
Private drains connected to public sewers (not including new houses)		45
Privies converted to water carriage system	..	45
New water closets built	..	6
New gully traps fixed	..	72
New chambers constructed	..	31

**DAIRIES:—**

On the register at the end of the year:		
Producers and retailers	..	87
Retail purveyors	..	5
Samples of milk taken (see page 21)	..	31

**SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION:—**

Number of slaughter houses on the register (now used as meat stores)	..	15
Number of licenced slaughtermen	..	67
Inspections made	..	96
Condemned in private traders' shops or stores:		
1 tin (3lb. 9 oz.) luncheon meat		
13lbs. of ham.		
1 pig carcase and offal—90lbs.		
6 tins (11lb. each) Apricot pulp.		
5lbs. cheese.		

**FACTORIES:—**

On the register at the end of the year	..	77
Visits of inspection	..	127

**SHOPS ACT, 1934:—**

Registered premises	..	109
Visits of inspection	..	126

**BAKEHOUSES:—**

On the register	..	6
Visits of inspection	..	51

**ICE CREAM:—**

Registered premises for manufacture and sale ..	3
Registered premises for sale only ..	15
Inspections ..	38

**REFUSE REMOVAL:—**

Foul ashpits reported and cleansed (private)	4
Number of houses from which refuse is removed by Council's contractors and direct service	5224

**NOTICES:—**

Under the Public Health Acts (Intimatory) ..	336
Under the Public Health Acts (Statutory) ..	9
Under the Housing Acts (Intimatory) ..	63
Under the Housing Acts (Statutory) ..	102

**GEORGE NELSON, M.S.I.A.,****Senior Sanitary and Housing Inspector.**





